PRELIMINARY CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN LAOS

1945 - 1972

by

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(Draft Copy)
I. After World War II to the Geneva Accords: 1945-1954

A. Ho Chi Minh's letters to F.D.R. and Truman for help against the French

B. American military and monetary aid to the French effort in Indo-China after WWII. July, 1953: Americans agree to pay 70% of the cost of running the French war in Indo-China (Toye, p. 92). Dulles offers support to the French at Dien Bien Phu, April 5, 1954. The French accept, but the British, and finally Eisenhower, decline to use this course of action. (Toye, 93, 94)

C. Anglo-American secret "seven-points" agreement of June 29, 1954: conditions for armistice on Indo-China: Point 4 - "(the armistice) does not contain political provisions which would risk loss of the retained area to communist control." (Toye, 95)


1. The West refuses to have Pathet Lao and Free Cambodian elements seated at the conference

2. Cambodia and Laos were to: (Toye, 97)
   (a) Join no military alliances except as envisaged by the United Nations' Charter
   (b) Ask for no foreign military aid
   (c) Tolerate no foreign bases on their soil unless their security was threatened
   (d) Pathet Lao regrouped into Same Neua and Phong Saly and thus integrated into the Lao national life
   (e) Except for 5,000 French defense and training forces in Laos, all foreign troops were to be withdrawn from the two countries under the supervision of the international control commission (ICC), who in turn, would report to the chairman of the Geneva Conference, the foreign ministers of Britain and France.

E. June 16-July 21, 1954: further documents related to the Geneva Accord

   (a) to integrate all citizens, without discrimination, into the national community (Lao) and to guarantee them the enjoyment of the rights and freedoms for which the Lao constitution provided (Toye, 105)

   (b) Special representation of Pathet Lao interests in the administration of Phong Saly and Sam Neua until the general elections scheduled for 1955 should complete the process of national reconciliation. (Toye, 125)
3. The U.S. does not sign the treaty; merely notes that it would not upset the agreement by force or threat of force so long as nobody else did. (Toye, 98) Our reason for not signing was fear that the proposed Vietnam reunification elections for 1956 would give the more numerous North Vietnam Communist's South Vietnam: point 4 of the Anglo-American agreement states that this would not be tolerated by the U.S. (cf. C) (Toye, 98)

F. South East Asia Treat, Sept. 8, 1954: U.S., France, Britain, Pakistan, Siam, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand. Main military provisions:

1. the parties would recognize aggression by means of armed attack against any one of them, or against Laos, Cambodia or South Vietnam— which were designated for protection in a protocol (preface) to the treaty, as endangering their own peace and security, and would act to meet it according to their several constitutional processes.

2. In the case of threats other than by armed attack in the treaty area they would consult immediately on measures for the common defence. But no action would be taken in the protocol states except at the invitation or with the consent of the government concerned. (Toye, 99-100)

II. From Geneva to the Vientiane Agreements 1954-1957

A. Kou Voravong, Laotian defence minister and strongest supporter of the policy of reconciliation towards the Pathet Lao, is assassinated, in Vientiane. Prince Souvannaphouma resigns as Prime Minister. Sept., 1954/At his Geneva Conference speech, June 14, 1961, Souvannaphouma said that "foreign interference into our internal affairs forced me to resign" in order to prevent him from reintegrating the Pathet Lao into the national community/ (Toye, p. 107)

B. Katay Don Sasority, a strong supporter of closer relations to the Thai and the U.S., becomes Prime Minister. Laos and Cambodia withdraw from the joint Indo-Chinese economic arrangements negotiated with France in 1950, and the resulting budgeting deficit was covered by U.S. aid. (Toye, 107)
C. Jan. 1, 1955: the opening of USOM in Vientiane
D. At the Afro-Asian Conference at Bangkok, China and North Vietnam give assurances that they will not interfere in Laos, March, 1955. (Toye, 110)
E. Negotiations break down: the Pathet Lao deny the right of the government to take over the administration of Phongsaly and Sam Neua provinces before the general elections due in August, 1955, i.e., before a full political settlement is reached. Katay breaks off the discussions at the end of April. (Toye, 108)
F. Katay sends troops to Sam Neua. He concludes a new economic agreement with the U.S. in July, 1955: the scale of direct American military aid is increased and the process of expanding the army from 15-25 thousand men is begun. (Toye, p110)
G. June 6, 1955: the Pathet Lao call upon the government to stop the dispatch of troops against them in Sam Neua, to postpone the elections and resume political talks. The elections are put off until December and negotiations commence in July. The Pathet Lao insist on major changes in the electoral law and on retaining control of their two provinces leading to a suspension of these talks on Sept. 5. (Toye, p111) Other talks fail, though a short cease-fire in Sam Neua is gained.
H. December 1955: General elections take place in the ten RIC provinces, without Pathet Lao participation. Katay does not get the 2/3 majority of the Assembly required. Prince Souvanna Phouma does eventually get such support, and on March 26, 1956, is P.M. Pledges himself to national reconciliation. (Toye, 112)
I. August 1956: Souphanouvong comes to Vientiane, and on Dec. 26 there is an agreement in principle on the basis of neutrality, guaranteed democratic freedom, and peace. Supplementary elections would be held to give the Pathet Lao a chance of representation in the Assembly, and in the meantime, there would be a coalition government.
J. The U.S. tries to stop the coalition: At the Congressional hearings before the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and Monetary Affairs, U.S. Ambassador J. Graham Parsons, Asst. Secy. of the Far Eastern Affairs Walter S. Robertson, and
Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs C. Douglas Dillon, freely admit that they tried to stop the coalition of '56. Robertson says "we did everything we could to keep it from happening." (Laos, W&R, 134) Parsons says, "I struggled for 16 months to prevent a coalition." (Toye, p.112)

Katay, back from the U.S., tries to lead intensive agitation against the coalition move. Mutual suspicions return. April 25, 1957, the RLG asks the Western powers to refrain from opposing the necessary negotiations. (Laos W&R, 134) May 1957 Souvannaphouma resigns because, he says, of Pathet Lao intransigence. Neither Katay nor left-wing Dong Souvannavong can form a government; Souvannaphouma returns to power in August, 1957. (Toye, 113)

K. November 12, 1957: The RLG under Souvannaphouma and the Pathet Lao sign the Vientiane Agreements.

(a) Souphanouvong hands over the two northern provinces and swears allegiance to the King of Laos. Sam Neua receives a Royal Lao governor, and a Pathet Lao deputy, and Phong Saly a Pathet Lao governor and a Royal Lao deputy. (Laos W&R, p.197)

(b) He and his associate, Phoumi Vongvichit, enter the govt. headed by Souvannaphouma

(c) Souphanouvong is appointed Minister of the Plan. Says he will follow a policy of cooperation with the U.S. because Laos needs "several decades" of aid.

(d) Demobilization of the Pathet Lao forces proceeds: 3/4 of them go back to villages. 1,530 are stationed at Xieng Khouan and on the Plain of Jarres until integration into the RLG army can occur. (Toye, p.113)

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A. In light of proposed elections for May 1958–20 additional parliamentary seats to allow representation for the Neo Lao Hak Saat (NLHS) — U.S. Ambassador Parsons inaugurates a crash program of rural aid at the end of 1957. (Toye, p.113)

B. Elections: May 1958: NLHS and its ally, the Peace Party, win 13 of the 20 new seats. (9 to the NLHS and 4 to the Peace
Party) This gave them 13 of the total 26 assembly seats (Toye, Laos W&R, p 141) This Pathet Lao victory as considered a severe blow to the West.

E. June 1958 Souvannaphouma calls for, and receives, the adjournment of the ICC despite the protests of the Polish delegate (Laos W&R, 149)

F. June 30, 1958: U.S. economic aid, amounting to all but a fraction of the Laotian budget, is suspended (Toye, p18)

G. June 1958 Souvannaphouma encourages the formation outside of the Assembly of the "Committee for the Defence of National Interests" (CDNI) an anti-Communist organization of officials and officers who had hitherto played no part in politics. This was to go with his "Rally of the Lao People", an anti-left parliamentary front with the support of 36 out of the 59 deputies in the new house. (Toye, 118)

H. July 23: Souvannaphouma loses a vote of confidence and resigns (Toye, 118, 119)

I. August 1958: Phoui Sananikone returns to power. His cabinet includes 4 members of the CDNI, but the two Pathet Lao members of the previous administration are excluded. Prince Souvannaphouma goes to Paris as Ambassador, Prince Souphanouvong becomes chairman of the new Assembly. (Toye, 119)

J. Phoui says: "As far as peaceful coexistence is concerned, we shall clearly inform neighboring countries that we shall coexist with the Free World only." (Toye, 120)

K. Dec. 15, 1958: Laotion Military patrol fired on in district of Huong Lar, a sensitive and disputed area near the SVN demilitarized zone. Before this patrol, no Lao official had ever visited this area and no Laotian military post had ever been established there, although it appeared to be part of Laos on the map. (Toye, p121) The N Viet alleged that Laos had violated their border at Huong Lap. The RLG claimed the SVN to be the aggressor. Prince Souphanouvong called for the reactivation of the ICC. Phoui Sananikone blamed as part of a Pathet Lao plot and obtained from the Assembly emergency powers for 12 months. Nothing else Huong Lap. (Toye, 122)
J. Jan 11, 1959: Phoumi Sananikone refuses Souphanouvong's request for reactivation of the ICC, and further claims that he will no longer be bound by the limitations on foreign military aid which Laos had accepted at the Geneva Accords. That limitation read: "During the period between the cessation and of hostilities in Vietnam and the final settlement of that country's political problems, the Royal Government of Laos will not request foreign aid, whether in war material, in personnel or instructors, except for the purpose of its effective territorial defence and to the extent defined by the agreement on the cessation of hostilities." (The agreement on the cessation of hostilities had provided that apart from the French training and defence establishments, with a permitted total of 5,000 men, no reinforcements or troops or military personnel from outside Lao territory were to be allowed.)

K. The U.S. sends 80 Filipino military technicians and establishes a military training section in the U.S.'s Vientiane-based Programs Evaluation Office.

L. The Sananikone government names May 11 as the day for integration of the Pathet Lao troops into the govt. army. Sisouk Na Champassak, Secty of State for Information at this time, later wrote: "Once the agreement was reached, the weapons surrendered, and the two battalions scattered throughout the country, the commissions/could be nullified by demanding, for example that the new officers pass examinations appropriate to their rank." (Toye, 12b) On May 11, the two Pathet Lao battalions refuse to integrate.

M. Souphanouvong and these other chief Pathet Lao leaders are placed under house arrest, and after an ultimatum, the two battalions are surrounded in their camps by govt. forces.

N. May 18, one battalion (700 men) completes with families, farm animals, household possessions, and arms, slips away at night. Part of the 2nd gets away later.

O. June 15, 1959: Congress investigating publishes a report citing waste and mismanagement of U.S. funds in Laos (Toye, 12b).

P. July 29, 1959: RLG claims that posts in Sam Neua Prov.
have been attacked by Pathet Lao forces stiffened by VietMinh (Toye 124).

Q. Aug. 4 Prince Souphanouvong and 15 other Pathet Lao leaders are jailed.

R. August 30-Sept 15: heavy attacks reported on Laos outposts in Sam Neua. But it is the wet season, in Sept, observers point out that the military activity has actually been on a minor scale. (Toye 127) in Sept 1959, the UN says there is no real evidence to support the view that the NV had aggressed in Laos (Toye 131).

S. The U.S. substantially increases her military aid in August and sends an additional 100 military advisors in civilian clothes to Laos (Toye 128) and the RLA army is increased to 29,000 men.

T. Phoumi Sanaikone blames the CDNl and Phoumi Nosovan for the summer fiasco mentioned above. There is a rift between him and the CDNl (Toye 132). Phoumi considers negotiations with the Pathet Lao. Some CDNl leaders are removed from the government. (Toye, p132).

A coup d'etat is led by Phoumi Nosovan and in the middle of the crisis, the King dismisses Phoumi on Dec. 30, 1959. Kou Abhay is named PM, but Phoumi has the power. (Toye, p133).

U. General Elections, April 1960: Sisouk Na Champassak, Phoumi's official spokesman, later writes that "The electoral districts were revised to break up Pathet Lao zones of influence and prevent the movement from forming highly compact groups. The eligibility requirements for candidates were stiffened... a mini-educational standard was required... this clause... contained a trick; more than half the Pathet Lao leaders and propagandists had no schooling and so were automatically excluded from the race." (Toye, 135).

The 14 PL and PP candidates all fail. One candidate who voted for himself together with a dozen members of his family still polled no votes. (Toye, 135) Prince Souvannaphouma is elected chairman of the Assembly. Prince Somsenith is Prime Minister. Phoumi, however, is still said to have the power. (Toye, 135).

V. May 23, 1960 Prince Souphanouvong and 15 other Pathet Lao leaders, with the help of their guards, escape from prison (Toye, 135).

W. August 9, 1960 Capt Kong Lee pulls a coup and takes Vienhniane.
His army and the civil party were not strong enough to resist American and Vietnamese; removal of first-phase rice crop in mid-October of those who were "making their harvest in the fields for the people." (Toye, p. 162)


Y. Sept 1, 1960: Kong Lee reluctantly agrees that Phoumi Nosovan can be part of the govt.

2. Phoumi declares that Viet Minh troops are marching on Sam Neua; these reports were never substantiated so he, along with Prince Boun Oum of Champassak, proclaims a new revolutionary group.

AA. Oct 7, 1966: U.S. suspends aid to the new Souvannaphouma govt. Now Sect of State for Far Eastern Affairs, J Graham Parsons (Of II, 9) comes to Vientiane. He makes it clear that resumption of aid depends on Laos' attitude to the negotiations with the Pathet Lao. (But Souvannaphouma needs Russian aid. (Toye 152) The U.S. Ambassador, however, says that aid will be resumed anyhow, if Souvannaphouma will permit direct deliveries of American military aid to Phoumi Nosovan on the understanding that it will only be used against the Pathet Lao. Souvannaphouma agrees. (Toye, 153) / Schlesinger later reported: "In late Oct, a few days before the American elections, State and Defence agreed that Souvanna must go...." (Toye, 153)

BB. On Nov. 23, Phoumi attacks Vientiane. On Dec 10 Souvannaphouma flees from Vientiane to Cambodia. On Dec. 11 a provisional govt. under Prince Boun Oum of Champassak is declared by Royal ordinances. The U.S. and Thailand instantly recognize the new regime. On Dec. the capital falls to Phoumi and Kong Lee retreats to the Plain of Jars. Souvannaphouma said "What I shall never forgive the U.S. for is the fact that it betrayed me, that it double-crossed me and my govt. (Mr Graham Parsons). I understood nothing about Asia and nothing about Laos. The Asst. Secy of State is the most nefarious and reprehensible of men. He is the ignominious architect of disastrous American policy toward Laos. He and others like him are responsible for the recent shedding of Lao blood." (Toye, p. 162)
CC 1960: Pathet Lao go to join with Hmong at the Plain of Jars. The whole group then receives Russian aid and some North Vietnamese cadres (Toye, 163)

DD Jan 26, 1961: Phoumi's govt. admits in a govt press conference that its previous stories of massive Viet Minh intervention had been told for reasons of propaganda. Toye, 165

FF The US supplies planes to Phoumi's troops. The 7th fleet is moved to the South China Sea, combat troops are alerted in Okinawa, and 500 marines with helicopters are moved to Udorn (Toye, pl67)

FF Phoumi alleges that 60,000 Viet Minh are operating against him. Pathet Lao troops, probably augmented with Viet. advisors and some cadre, take large areas of Laos against Phoumi's heartless (?) troops. 400 American military advisors change from civilian clothes to their true military clothes. (the Bay of Pigs happens at this time) (Toye 168, 169)

GG May 16, 1961: Cease Fire end and the Geneva Conference

A. May 16, 1961: Cease Fire and the Geneva Convention. The U.S. Russia, and China seem to want a neutral Laos. But there is little agreement between the Laotian internal faction, the Vietsnane Govt, (Prince Boun Oum), the L.L. (Prince Souphanouvong), and the neutralists. The Siamese back the Vietsnane Govt, the North Vietnamese back the P.L, and the Neutralists are supported by those who still recognize the recently deposed Souvannaphouma govt. (Troye, p174)

B. Oct. 18, 1961: The King invites Souvannaphouma to form a new administration, though Boun Oum is to remain in office until the actual government is formed. (Troye 175)

C. Dec 14, 1961: Plain de Jarres meeting of the three principals: it is agreed that the Ministries of Defence and Interior were to go to the Neutralists, but on Dec 27, Boun Oum withdraws his agreement. He also refuses to go and negotiate further in Geneva. The U.S. witholds it 4,000,000 dollar cash grant aid for the ninth of Jan, 1962. Boun Oum goes to Geneva. The U.S. and Russia agree that the two ministries should go to the neutralists, but Boun Oum does not.

D. At the same time, the Americans still fly arms and other support to the estimated 10,000 Meo and their American advisors behind P.L lines. Also, some P.L. troops are in the Vietsnane Govt's held areas. Hence, the fighting continues somewhat (Troye, p177) in June 6, 1961, Kong Lae, the Neutralist, chages the Meo and their American advisors from Phadong, a village on the southern frings of the Plain of Jars and behind the truce line. Accusations of Vietnamese participation in this battle are not substantiated. (Troye 178)

E. June 1961, Souvannaphouma requests the Chinese to build a road in Phong Saly.

F. During the rainy season, the Neutralists receive weapons from the Russians, the P.L. receive taining from the Vietsnane, and the Vietsnane Govt builds its army to 60,000 men trained and advised down to the company level by Am. Special Forces, with teams of interpreters provided by Siam. Vang Pao's forces are built to 18,000 in the Plain of Jars and Sam Neua areas have airstrips and American advisors. (Troye 174)

G. Dec. 1961: Phoumi and Boun Oum forces make probes into P.L. territories. Phoumi and Boun Oum then claim that not only the Viet Minh, but even Chinese and Russian troops are fighting in Laos. (Troye 180) Such reports are called fictitious by U.S. advisors.

H. Phoumi probes into the hills north of Thathek, behind the truce line, and is repulsed by the P.L.

I. Jan. 1962: Against U.S. advice, Phoumi and Boun Oum use Nam Tha, on the Vietsnane govt side of the truce line to suply and initiate probes into the other side of the truce line. So the P.L. mortar the air field there. Souphanouvong admits that he has thus violated the truce, but points out that it was necessary to prevent the enemy probes and bombing of P.L. villages. (Troye 180) The British and Russians persuade the P.L. to stop the mortaring so that negotiations to install the King's govt may begin. But then Boun Oum does not cooperate at the talks held in L.P. on Feb. 16, 1962. The U.S. withholds a cash-grant to make Boun Oum talk, but he just releases more bank notes. (Troye 180,81)

J. On Jan 10, 1963 Souvannaphouma asks the U.S. to turn over to the coalition planes and operation of carrying out relief operations. The P.L. as the Russians had
turned over planes to the coalition government for the continued operation of supplying the Neutralists. The U.S. refuses. (Laos WR, 193) As Souvanna depends on American political support, he is not in a good position to take action against the U.S. even if he wants to.

1. In order to stop Phoumi's continued reinforcement and use of Nam Tha, the P.L. take the airstrip at Muong Sing, which the P.L. have been using for this purpose. Phoumi claims that Chinese troops were used, but American advisors in the area report neither Chinese nor North Vietnamese troops were used. (Toye 182, 193)

Phoumi's troops not only retreat from Muong Sing, but also from Ban Houei Sai even though there is no P.L. attack on that city. The abandonment of Ban Houei Sai alarms Thailand. To appease Thailand and fulfill SEATO obligations, the U.S. moved 1,000 Marines to the Mekong on March 6, 1962. On May 16, leading elements of another 4,000 troops are sent to Bangkok. The Thais, reassured of U.S. protection, not to support Phoumi further. Hence Vientiane tells Souvannaphouma that they agree to his govt, the one asked for by the King a year ago (C.P. IV, B) The Times reveals that the main reason for Phoumi's stubbornness and provocations has been independent CIA support of his position. (Toye, p. 184)

M. June 24, 1962: Souvannaphouma actually takes office as head of the coalition government. 7 members of the government are Souvannaphouma Neutralists, 4 from Phoumi's group, 4 P.L. and 4 "right-wing neutralists." Phoumi and Souphanavong are Vice-Premiers, and Phoumi as Finance Minister continues to control American aid and all other funds, including those that Souphanavong will need to carry out his work as Minister of the Plan.
After the signing of the accords to June 1972,

After the treaty is signed, N. Viet. troops continue to use

the Ho Chi Minh Trail as U.S. direct influence. It will help support

of favored forces in South Vietnam accelerates. It is necessary for the NV to use

the trail in order to aid the NLF against the expanding counter-insurgency

efforts of the Americans. This development reduces the ability of the new Lao

tian government to stop the movement of insurgents through eastern Laos as it had promised

at Geneva (Toye, p189). It is also said by the PL that the US continues to extensively

supply food and arms to Neo guerrillas in the PL area, and that these guerrillas

continue to harass PL troops and supplies. (Lao War p86) (? CR)

After the settlement, the Russians stop their airlift of supplies to the Neutralist

forces in the Plain of Jars. The latter, then, get them from Hanoi. A split

occurs in the Neutralist ranks. Neutralists Colonel Deuane and Quinim Pholsena favor

the PL, while Neutralists Kong Lee and Ketsana favors the Souvannaphouma side. (Toye, p190

C. Feb 12, 1963: Ketsana is assassinated by a leftwing Neutralist. On March 31,

fighting between the two Neutralist factions breaks out at Xieng Khouang, and Deuane east

Kong Lee from the locale. Khong Lee sets up a joint headquarters with Phoumiist troops

at nearby Muong Phanh, and his Russians arms are exchanged for American ones. Similar

trouble occurs in the Thakhek area. (Toye, p190-1)

D. April 1, 1963: Leftwing Neutralist Quinim Pholsene is assassinated in Vientiane.

On April a second left-wing Neutralists is assassinated in Vientiane. Six days

later the PL Ministers leave Vientiane for PL headquarters in Khong Khay. The

coalition government, ten months after Geneva, is effectively broken up.

(Toye, 192)

E. The PL villa, Chinese and N. Vietnamese embassies in Vientiane are surrounded

by rightist forces. The PL and rightest exchange fire around the PL villa. (Lao

War p190)
F. December, 1963: Another left-wing Neutralist leader is murdered in Vientiane.

G. Jan 1964: Some hope of renewed meeting between the dissident factions is rewarded, but Phoumi's troops make a military foray into a sensitive area (Kam Thon Plateau), are thrown back in disarray, make the usual unsubstantiated cry that hordes of Viet Minh troops were involved, and the chances for this renewed meeting are lost. Marshal Savit, Minister of Thailand and Phoumi's backer, had died in 1963, so they did not push Phoumi's plea for special aid from the US as strongly as before. (Toye, 192)

H. April 4, 1964: PL radio reports South Vietnamese troops in the Savannakhet and Tchepone regions (Laos War, 202).

I. Talks start again on the Plain of Jars, but on 19 April, 1964, a group of younger right-wing officers in Vientiane, led by the chief of Phoumi's secret police, the half-Vietnamese Siho, in uneasy alliance with General Kouprasith Abbay, arrest Prince Souvannaphouma and take control of Vientiane. The purpose of the coup seems to be to break the power of Phoumi who was too ineffective for the taste of the rightists. Phoumi escapes to Thailand, the western powers protest, Siho releases Souvannaphouma, but keeps control of some Mekong troops. Some of the Neutralists who had joined the right-wing troops at the Plain of Jars go over to the PL side. The rest are driven off the Plain by the PL. Control of Phongsaly goes to the PL when the Neutralists there changes to the PL side. (Toye, 192, 3)

J. The U.S. conducts air strikes against the PL headquarters at Khang Khay and other PL targets after two of its reconnaissance planes are shot down.

K. Souvannaphouma, allowed to return to the P.M. position, remodels the govt. in a way unacceptable to the PL (Toye, p. 193)

L. General Cane completely merges the remnants of the Neutralists' troops with his right-wing troops. Kong Lee accepts this.

M. N. Jan 1965: Another coup d'etat drives Siho into exile in Thailand, leaving Prince Souvannaphouma free from pressures.

N. In Feb 1965 the U.S. carries out a series of sharp air raids on N Vietnam because of
rebel attacks on American bases in the South. This war obscures the one in Laos.

O. Jan. 1966: Richard Dudman of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports that Thai troops are operating in considerable numbers in Laos. (p207 Laos WR) In March 1970, the Nixon Administration reveals, after its former denials, that Thai troops have been being used, in Laos. (Laos WR246) He also announces that US has and will continue to bomb in Laos (WR 218).

P. October 1966: Kong Lea, after resisting unification of his remaining Neutralist troops, is spirited off to Thailand. His headquarters is then integrated into the right wing army. (Laos WR 209)

Q Nov 1968: Planes previously used to bomb N.Vietnam are turned on several parts of Laos and the Ho Chi Minh Trail. (Laos WR p222,233)